

# Why Common Assessments?

## Team-developed common assessments

- Are more efficient
- Promote equity
- Monitor and improve student learning
- Inform and improve the practice of individual teachers and teams of teachers
- Build team capacity to achieve at higher levels
- Are essential to systematic interventions when students do not learn



## **Formative Assessments:**

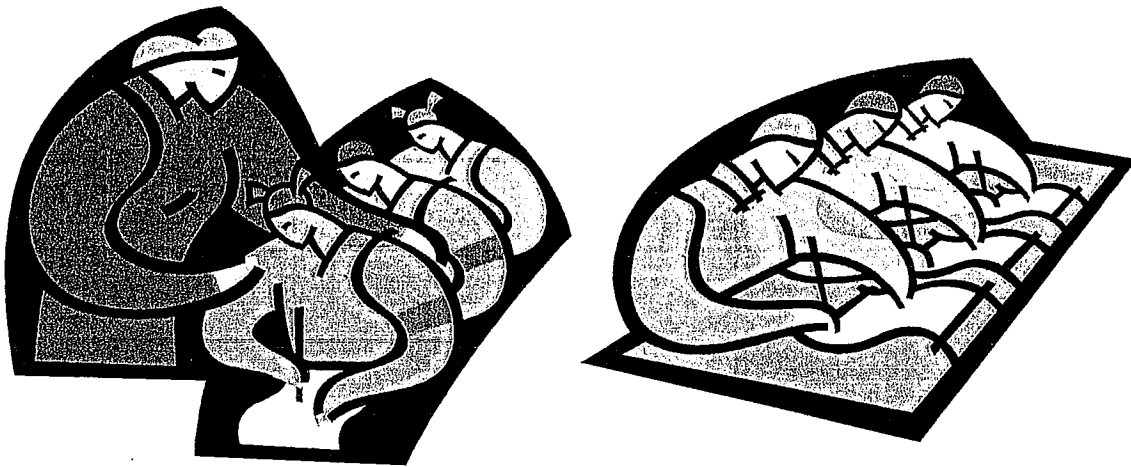
Give students risk-free opportunity to improve

Give teachers risk-free opportunity to improve

# Common Assessments Defined

"[Common assessments are] not standardized tests, but teacher-created, teacher-owned assessments that are collaboratively scored and that provide immediate feedback to students and teachers.

--Douglas Reeves, CEO and Founder, the Leadership and Learning Center



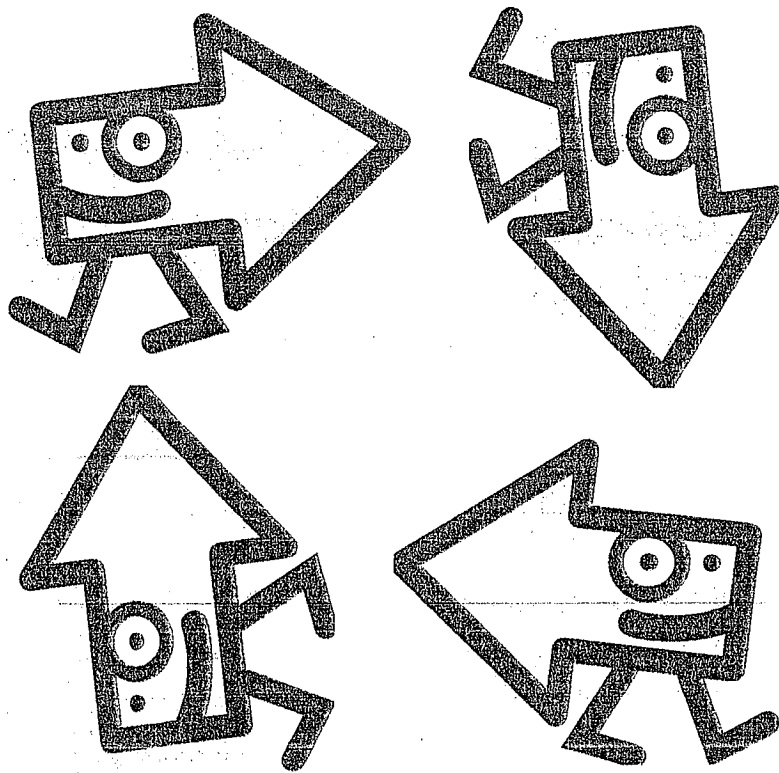
"A **common assessment** is any assessment given by two or more instructors to collaboratively examine the results for:

- Shared learning
- Instructional planning for individual students
- Curriculum, instruction, and/or assessment modifications"

--Cassandra Erkens

# Formative Assessments— How Many, How Often, What Type?

There is no **right answer** on the number, frequency, or type of formative assessments. So much depends upon content, students, teacher, and context for assessments. Ultimately, deciding how much to do with formatives depends entirely on the educators' expertise when addressing the demands of standards and needs of learners.



What we know  
today does not  
make yesterday  
wrong, it makes  
tomorrow better.

--Carol Commadore

